



Reading First *Lighthouse School*

Seligman Seligman School District

In the areas of coaching, as well as communication and collaboration, I recommend that Seligman School be acknowledged as a Lighthouse School. While serving as a half-time reading coach, Diane Pritchett has strived to maintain high levels of informed discourse with both the administrative and teaching staff regarding reading improvement for all K-3 students.

The continuity of her having been in the position for the entire duration of Cycle II has also played an important role. As her State Reading Specialist, I have seen the difficulties other schools have experienced as coaches revolve in-and-out of the position. This issue was made further evident upon a recent visit to a highly performing Reading First school where the Principal and reading coach have been working together since their school opened nearly a decade ago. Diane has had turn-over administratively at her school, but has worked with the new K-12 principal/superintendent to ensure supportive advocacy for reading improvement by all K-3 students, through Reading First tenets.

Among her many qualities as a reading coach are her thorough organizational skills, her insights into the depth of reading-related issues, and the capacity to bring all stakeholders into the discussion of what is best for children with a unifying approach. Her documentation of meetings and my observances of her coaching feed-back sessions provide the basis of acknowledgement for her aforementioned organizational capacity and excellent skills in communication.

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State Reading Specialist